

**Amendments to the SPECIFICATION:**

Without prejudice, please amend without prejudice the Substitute Specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 16 (and ending at page 5, line 24) of the Substitute Specification as follows:

--At program 105, engine control system 20 detects the actuation of starting switch 50 and thus the existence of a starting command, and generates the starting authorization request and conveys it to control unit 30 via communication system 60. ~~In Figure 2, e~~ Communication system 60 is depicted as an interface between engine control system 20 and control unit 30, the portion of the flow chart depicted to the left of interface 60 being executed in engine control system 20, and the portion of the flow chart depicted to the right of interface 60 being executed in control unit 30. Execution thus branches from program point 105 in engine control system 20 to a program point 150 in control unit 30.